

Connecting Liberian Youths to Their Cultural Heritage in Preparation for the DATI Kukatonon Peace Project Launch in Liberia



Today, November 10, 2019 is a significant day in the history of Dehkontee Artists Theatre, Inc. (DATI). The DATI Montserrado Chapter youths paid a courtesy call on elders residing in Barnesville Kebbah to consult with and request the blessings of the elders in their county. This tradition is deeply rooted in our cultural belief that one must always consult the elders as a sign of respect, before he undertakes any important task or project.

In this way, not only does one get the consent of the living, but one may also get the approval of the spirits of his ancestors. The DATI Montserrado Chapter youths did just that so that their formal launch of the DATI Kukatonon Peace Project in Liberia will be successful on Saturday, November 16th.



During the visit, DATI executives and members presented white kola nuts, salt and pepper to the elders as a symbol of peace and respect. The sacred traditional tokens were presented to the elders by DATI's Country Representative Roland Yowah. He also extended the elders an invitation to attend the formal launch of DATI Kukatonon Peace Project in Liberia. The historic

event will take place at the Providence Baptist Church Shrine on Broad and Center Streets from 12 noon to 2 p.m.



In response, the elders expressed their gratitude to the youths for their wisdom and blessed the youths. The elders also set up a committee to attend DATI's program on Saturday. The guest speaker for the event is Charles Boimah Blake, Sr. He once served on DATI's Board of Directors in the United States and was recently appointed on the DATI-Liberia Board of Directors.



19 successful college graduates and students will receive their certificates as DATI Peace Advocates. DATI will perform "Our Women Are Not Your Chickoos and Iron Titties", written and directed by Statesman Albert Ninneh, DATI's National Secretary General. The play promotes gender equity and women empowerment and frowns on the sexual abuse and molestation of Liberian girls. All attendees are asked to dress in white to symbolize their support for peace and reconciliation in post-genocide Liberian society.

Published by DATI Public Relations Section

November 10, 2019

